

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

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21

ACTION DLOS-06

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ARA-10 EA-09 EUR-12 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00

FEA-01 ACDA-10 AGR-10 AID-05 CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00

CIAE-00 CIEP-02 COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-07 EPA-04

ERDA-07 FMC-02 TRSE-00 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 JUSE-00

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 NSF-02 OES-06 OMB-01 PA-02 PM-04

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 SAL-01 /190 W

----- 104862

R 241545Z SEP 76

FM AMCONSUL VANCOUVER

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3028

INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

USUN NEW YORK 037

UNCLAS VANCOUVER 996

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PLOS, CA

SUBJECT: LAW OF THE SEA CONFERENCE: VANCOUVER MEDIA REACTION

1. VANCOUVER SUN LEAD EDITORIAL OF SEPTEMBER 23, "NEPTUNE S TINDERBOX", FINDS PLENTY OF FRESH EVIDENCE OF "DISTRUST" IN LOS ADJOURNMENT "IN A STATE OF CONTENTIOUS DEADLOCK". MAIN THRUST OF EDITORIAL IS THAT LOS SESSION WAS "MEMORABLE" FOR CANADA BECAUSE IT DEMONSTRATED THAT CANADA IS ON A "COLLISION COURSE" WITH REGARD TO THE "EXPLOSIVE QUESTION" OF THE MINING OF SEABED MINERAL DEPOSITS AND NICKEL IN PARTICULAR. "THREATENED IN VARYING DEGREES ARE OUR RESOURCE-PRODUCT EARNINGS, THEREFORE OUR OVER-ALL ECONOMY, AND OUR RELATIONS WITH THE UNITED STATES ON ONE HAND, THE THIRD WORLD ON THE OTHER."

2. SUN EDITORIAL CONCLUDES THAT PROSPECTS FOR AGREEMENT ON THE ISSUE OF A UN-SUPERVISED INTERNATIONAL SEABED AUTHORITY BETWEEN THE THIRD WORLD AND THE DEVELOPED NATIONS ARE "AT PRESENT, UNCLASSIFIED

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DIM" AND THAT THE PROSPECT (REPORTEDLY TOUTED BY THE U.S.

INTERIOR DEPARTMENT) OF A TRANSFORMATION OF THE U.S. FROM  
A MAJOR IMPORTER OF NICKEL AND COPPER INTO AN IMPORTANT EXPORTER  
AS A RESULT OF SEABED MINING WOULD BE "ECONOMICALLY DISASTROUS"  
FOR CANADA S NICKEL INDUSTRY.

3. IN CLOSING, EDITORIAL STATES THAT UNLESS AN "UNLIKELY "  
BREAKTHROUGH IS ACHIEVED BEFORE THE CONFERENCE RESUMES NEXT  
MAY, "IT SEEMS PROBABLE THE VAST NO-MAN S WATERS OF NEPTUNE S  
DOMAIN WILL GENERATE A NEW PHASE OF INTERNATIONAL DISCORD AND  
CONFRONTATION".  
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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** LAW OF THE SEA, PRESS COMMENTS, MINING, SEABED, MEETINGS, MINERAL RESERVES  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 24 SEP 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
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**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Review Authority:** greeneet  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 07 MAY 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
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**TAGS:** PLOS, CA  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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